

A Worthy Citizen of the Gospel

Philippians 1:27-30

Theme: A believer should be consumed with living as a worthy citizen of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ

only = (μόνον) above all, at all costs, whatever happens

conversation = (πολιτεύεσθε) conduct one's life as a citizen

as it becometh = (αξίωζ) in a manner worthy of or suitable to

the gospel of Christ = (ὑαγγεγίου) the good news, salvation

I. A worthy citizen of the Gospel will stand fast regardless of the location of spiritual leadership. (27)

Stand Fast = stand firm, be steadfast

A. Stand fast regardless of the presence of spiritual leadership

B. Stand fast regardless of the absence of spiritual leadership

II. A worthy citizen of the Gospel will strive together in spiritual unity. (27)

Strive together = (athletic term) wrestling together; to compete together as on a team; not in contention with each other, but in union against the perversion of the Gospel faith;

A. Unity that is in one spirit

=unity in attitude and disposition.

B. Unity that is with one mind

=unity in the innermost soul, thoughts, and mindset.

=a mindset that is driven toward God, spiritual things, and the faith of the Gospel.

C. Unity that defends the faith of the Gospel

=a unified cause defending the true identity and foundations of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

III. A worthy citizen of the Gospel will bravely suffer for Christ's sake. (28-30)

In nothing terrified = frighten, scared; like a panicked horse

A. Realizing that there is true value in suffering for Christ's sake.

1. Those adversaries who oppose the church will some day be destroyed

2. The suffering of the church is actually a demonstration of the salvation of God.

B. Realizing that others are also suffering for Christ's sake.

So What?

1. Am I consumed with being a worthy citizen of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

2. Am I a worthy citizen of the Gospel who will stand fast regardless of the presence of spiritual leadership?

3. Am I a worthy citizen of the Gospel who will strive together in unity for the faith of the Gospel?

4. Am I a worthy citizen of the Gospel who is willing to bravely suffer for Christ's sake?